UPDATED INFORMATIVE DIGEST FOR PROPOSED BUILDING STANDARDS OF THE DIVISION OF THE STATE ARCHITECT - STRUCTURAL SAFETY

REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 24, PART 11

The Division of the State Architect (Structural Safety) finds that no revisions have been made that would warrant a change to the informative digest contained in the Notice for Title 24, Part 11.

Summary of the Immediately Preceding Laws and Regulations

Sections 17310 and 81142 of the Education Code authorize the State Architect to establish building standards for the design, construction and inspection of public elementary and secondary schools, and community colleges.

Summary of the Immediately Preceding Regulations

At the direction of the Building Standards Commission, Part 11 of Title 24, which is currently vacant, will contain California's green building standards. These standards will be coordinated with, and may reference existing laws and regulations (e.g. Title 24, Part 6 energy efficiency standards) pertaining to resource and energy conservation and environmental quality.

Summary of Effect

DSA is proposing administrative provisions for inclusion in Part 11 which identify DSA's promulgating and enforcement role of green building standards for public schools and community colleges. Additionally, these administrative provisions may identify resources and additional information regarding DSA's process for development of green building standards to be adopted into Part 11 at a future date. This proposed action does not prescribe nor mandate green building requirements for public schools and community colleges at this time.

Part 11 provisions adopted within the 2007 rulemaking cycle will establish the initial framework for development and integration of DSA's voluntary and/or mandatory green building standards into Title 24 during the 2008 and/or 2009 annual rulemaking cycles.

The broad objective of green building standards for public schools is to promote conservation of natural resources, reduce construction impacts on the environment, and improve the indoor environmental quality of classrooms. Environmental aspects of classrooms such as indoor air quality, lighting and acoustics directly affect the health, well-being, and productivity of students and faculty, as documented by the following sources:

- Department of General Services http://www.sustainableschools.dgs.ca.gov/sustainableschools/
- Collaborative for High Performance Schools http://www.chps.net/
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) http://www.usgbc.org/Default.aspx

Comparable Federal Statute or Regulations

There are no comparable federal regulations or statutes.